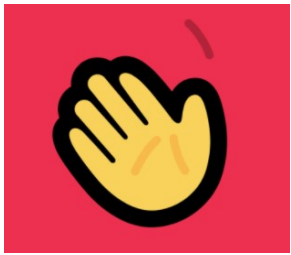




APP of the fortnight



Official
age rating

Houseparty

What is it?

Houseparty is a free video chat app where you can talk to people one-on-one or in groups of up to eight, with people you know and people you might not. You can also play games with the people you're chatting to.

Top Houseparty Tips

Explore it together

Sitting down with your child and exploring their favourite app or game is a great way for you to learn more about what they like to do online. You can ask them why they like to use an app or play certain games, as well as who they're talking to and what sorts of things they're sharing.

Know how to ignore friend requests

People you know or people you don't know might try to add you as a friend on Houseparty and you can choose to 'accept' or 'ignore' them. With your child, show them how to ignore friend requests from people they don't know, even from friends of friends. Remind them video chatting is best kept to people you know, like close friends and family members, as a great way to keep in touch.

Check their privacy settings

In settings, make sure 'Private Mode' is switched on so your child's chats are kept private. This should help keep your child's contacts to people they know.

Show your child how to ghost, report, block and unfriend

Your child might receive upsetting or inappropriate messages or comments from other users on Houseparty.

If this happens, they can 'ghost', report, block or unfriend other users by clicking on the smiley icon and selecting 'My friends'.

For each friend you can:

Ghost - stay anonymous from certain people without deleting them. It means they won't see when you're online but you can still choose to talk to them

Report – report someone if they've sent something that breaks the community guidelines (these are called the Party Guidelines)

Block – choose to block someone without them knowing. This means they can't contact you. You can also unblock them if you want

Unfriend – stop being friends with someone, which means they can no longer contact you. Unlike blocking, you can't undo this without the other person being notified

Explore these features with your child and talk about when they might want to use it.

And remember to let your child know that they can always talk to you about worrying things they see online